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DAIRY PRODUCTION

OKLAHOMA CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTING SERVICE
P. O. Box #1095, Oklahoma City, 231-4353

January-March
1970
LV #70-24

(Released
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FEWER COWS, MORE MILK PER COW IN 1969

OKLAHOMA: Milk production in Oklahoma for the first quarter of 1970 has been estimated at 305 million pounds, up 2 percent from the January-March period in 1969, according to the Oklahoma Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. Total milk production for the year of 1969, at 1,270 million pounds was down 13 million from the 1,283 million pounds produced in 1968.

During 1969 the estimated number of milk cows continued the downward trend of the last 25 years, going down from 154,000 head in December, 1968, to 150,000 head in December, 1969. This drop in numbers is unchanged from the decline in 1968, while other years during the 1960's the decline in numbers ranged from 19 to 9 thousand head. Average milk production per cow in 1969 was 8,411 pounds, up 131 pounds per cow from the previous year, while in 1968 the gain in milk production per cow was up only 10 pounds.

Milk production during the first quarter of this year was above that of a year earlier. The amount of ration fed to milk cows on April 1, 1970, was 12.4 pounds per head, up .4 pound over that of a year earlier. Pasture condition in Oklahoma on April 1 was reported at 77 percent of normal, 6 points below the condition of a year earlier. Pastures were slow to green up this spring because of below normal temperatures, but April rains and warmer weather late in the month have brought them up to normal.

MILK PRODUCTION ON FARMS, OKLAHOMA AND UNITED STATES SELECTED MONTHS, 1970, WITH COMPARISONS

Month	OKLAHOMA				UNITED STATES			
	1968	1969	1970	1970 1969	1968	1969	1970	1970 1969
- Million Pounds -								
January	103	102	105	103	9,495	9,411	9,412	100.0
February	98	93	95	102	9,187	8,792	8,840	100.5
March	108	104	105	101	10,197	9,960	10,053	100.9

OKLAHOMA: MILK COWS ON FARMS, MONTHLY PRODUCTION PER COW, AND TOTAL MILK PRODUCTION, 1969, WITH COMPARISONS

Month	Milk Cows on Farms			Monthly Production per Cow			Total Milk Production		
	1967	1968	1969	1967	1968	1969	1967	1968	1969
- Thousands -									
January	162	156	153	640	660	665	104	103	102
February	161	156	153	600	630	610	97	98	93
March	161	156	152	685	690	685	110	108	104
April	160	156	152	730	730	740	117	114	112
May	160	155	152	770	770	770	123	119	117
June	159	155	151	725	725	735	115	112	111
July	159	155	151	715	715	725	114	111	109
August	158	155	151	695	685	705	110	106	106
September	158	154	150	670	660	680	106	102	102
October	157	154	150	685	685	700	108	105	105
November	157	154	150	665	665	695	104	102	104
December	157	154	150	680	670	700	107	103	105
Annual	159	155	151	8,270	8,280	8,411	1,315	1,283	1,270



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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Statistical Reporting Service

(over)

co-operating

Harold J. Peterson
Agricultural Statistician

OKLAHOMA
STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

UNITED STATES: Milk production for the U. S. during the first quarter of 1970, at 28.3 billion pounds, was nearly unchanged from the previous year. Total milk production for 1969 was 116.2 billion pounds, down 0.9 percent from the previous year. Milk cow numbers during 1969 averaged 2.7 percent fewer than in 1968, while milk per cow was up an average of 166 pounds. Average ration fed per cow April 1, was 12.0 pounds, and pasture condition for the country was 78 percent, 2 points above a year earlier.

MILK PRICES ABOVE A YEAR EARLIER

Prices for whole milk paid to farmers during the first quarter of 1970 were 50 cents, 25 cents, and 10 cents above the prices of January, February, and March of the previous year. The increases were in both fluid grade milk and manufacturing milk, the amounts nearly the same except for March. Butterfat tests are running slightly above those of the previous year.

OKLAHOMA: PRICES AND BUTTERFAT CONTENT OF MILK SOLD WHOLESALE

Month	Milk Price per 100 Pounds								
	All Milk			Fluid Milk			Manufacturing Milk		
	1968	1969	1970 1/	1968	1969	1970 1/	1968	1969	1970 1/
- Dollars -									
January	5.75	6.20	6.70	5.90	6.35	6.85	4.20	4.40	4.70
February	5.40	6.10	6.35	5.50	6.30	6.50	4.15	4.30	4.55
March	5.45	6.00	6.10	5.55	6.15	6.25	4.15	4.25	4.55
Butterfat Content									
- Percent -									
January	3.77	3.72	3.78	3.75	3.72	3.77	3.95	3.82	3.90
February	3.66	3.65	3.68	3.65	3.64	3.67	3.80	3.76	3.80
March	3.59	3.61	3.62	3.58	3.61	3.61	3.72	3.63	3.73

1/ Preliminary.

ICE CREAM OUTPUT LOWER; BUTTER AND CHEESE UP

Ice cream production for the first three months of 1970 was 1,300,000 pounds, compared to 1,350,000 during the first quarter of 1969, a decrease of 4 percent. Butter production was up 23 percent over the comparable quarter of last year, with 5.7 million pounds compared with 4.6 million pounds. Cheese production, estimated at 2.0 million pounds for the quarter, is up rather sharply from the 1.3 million pounds produced a year earlier.

OKLAHOMA: BUTTER AND CHEESE PRODUCTION

Month	Butter			Cheese		
	1968	1969 1/	1970 1/	1968	1969 1/	1970 1/
	- 1,000 Pounds -			- 1,000 Pounds -		
January	1,988	1,580	1,750	540	470	560
February	1,757	1,410	1,725	549	395	685
March	2,110	1,630	2,220	517	475	790

1/ Preliminary.

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